(d) All the gas likely to be produced from Gandhar has been allocated to various users in Gujarat itself, including to two power plants.

(e) to (g) Production and transportation constraints in South Gujarat are likely to delay supply of gas to GEB Uttran : Gas to the Uttran Power Station has been allocated from South Gujarat, and not from Hazira.

Uttaran Gas-Based Power House

308. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI J. P. JAVALI :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat Electricity Board's Uttaran gas-based power house which is ready to go in stream would get committed gas so that Rs. 200 crores worth power house may not remain idle ;

(b) whether committed gas for proposed Pipavav power house in Gujarat would be allowed to be supplied from Tapti gas fields at Gujarat's own cost which is prepared to lay down under-sea pipeline ;

(c) whether ONGC have no resource for exploiting Tapti gas fields in Gujarat ; would they permit non-governmental sources to exploit ;

(d) what is the balance recoverable deserves of the gas and what is the quantum of the gas is being consumed and demand at present ; and

(e) what is the rough estimate of the capital requirement to exploit the gas to meet the requirement by the end of the century ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Various alternatives for supplying gas to the Uttaran Power Station are being looked into.

(b) and (c) No decisions have been taken in this regard.

(d) Approximately 730 billion cubic metres as on 1-4-1991. Current consumption is approximately 38 MMSCMD. The registered demand with GAIL is 240 MMSCMD, apart from allocations of over 90 MMSCMD already made.

(e) The gas requirements of the country are not likely to be met in the foreseeable future from the known indigenous reserves.

Demand of Petroleum Products

309. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that substantial demand for petroleum products is met from the domestic production and if so, the details of demands for major petroleum products vis-a-vis ratio of supplies of imported and indigenous quantities as prevailed during the last five years and upto March 31, 1992;

(b) the details of per litre cost of indigenous petrol and its marketing cost and the average cost of imported petrol per litre during the current financial year vis-a-vis those prevailed at the commencement of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the item-wise details of handling loss of major petroleum products, including LPG, during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to minimise handling losses of these products upto their retail outlet points and with what result ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) details of demand for petroleum products vis-a-vis ratio of supplies of imported and indigenous petroleum products are given below :

Year	Demand (in TMT	Indigenous	Imported
		(in per cent)	
1987-88	46,416	92	8
1988-89	50,092	88	12
1989-90	54,095	88	12
1890-91	55,035	85	15
1991-92	56,830	84	16

(b) Petrol has not been imported during the current financial year. Per litre cost of petrol to the consumer ex-storage point excluding local taxes and levies etc. is Rs. 13.42 p which includes a marketing margin of paise 12.6. On 1.4-1985 (the commencement of VII Plan) the per litre cost of petrol to consumer ex-storage point was Rs. 6.37/litre including a marketing margin of about paise 6.2.

(c) and (d) Handling loss is on account of movement and storage of product. Factors leading to the losses are identified and continuous efforts are made to control the same.

Gulf Surcharge

310. SHRI S S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had imposed "Gulf-Surcharge" on the selling prices of Petroleum products viz Aviation Fuel, Petrol and Diesel, to recover unforeseen rise in the cost of imported crude oil prevailed during the period of Gulf-crisis in 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the situation became normal long ago and crude prices in the international market registered stability and much downward level as compared to that existed in the wake of crisis in the Gulf; if so, its comparative details;

(c) whether the same has resulted in reduction of cost of import of crude oil by Government; and

(d) if so, whether Government should not do away with the "Gulf-Surcharge" from the selling price of Petroleum products with the fulfilment of the specific purpose for which it has been imposed ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) Gulf Surcharge on petroleum products was levied with effect from 15th October, 1990 to partially compensate the oil industry for the increase in the costs due to rise in international prices and other factors. Even though the prices have come down in the international market since then, there has been additional burden on the oil industry on account of adjustments in the exchange rate of rupee and other factors due to which the existing prices of petroleum products do not recover the full costs. Therefore, there is no proposal at present to do away with this Surcharge.

Privatisation of Various Sectors

311. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for bringing about privatisation in various sectors under the control of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Private Sector participation to a certain extent already exists in exploration, refining and marketing activities of the petroleum sector.

Private Companies in Oil Refineries

312. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that private companies have been allowed to enter in oil refineries; and

(b) if so, what are the details and guidelines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) A 3 MTPA capacity refinery at Mangalore is being set up as a joint venture between HPCL and Indian Rayon Industries Ltd. While some other companies in the private sector have also shown interest in setting up/participating in new refineries, no decision has been taken in this regard.